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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tomoko MIYAHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1762

Application No.: 10/768,153

Examiner: D. TUROCY

Filed: February 2, 2004

Docket No.: 118505

For: CARBON NANOTUBE MANUFACTURING APPARATUS AND METHOD, AND GAS DECOMPOSER FOR USE IN THE MANUFACTURING APPARATUS AND METHOD

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the May 21, 2007 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-18 and 34-36, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.